

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

Applicant's amendments, filed 2/12/2008, are accepted and appreciated by the examiner. Applicant has canceled claim 25 and amended claim 24. In response to these amendments and applicants arguments concerning the rejection of claims under 35 USC 112, all previous rejections of the claims are withdrawn.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Kari Footland on 4/3/2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 4, on the first line, please replace "The apparatus for" with "An apparatus for".

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-22 and 24 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Reasons for allowance are found in previous office actions. In brief, applicant's claims include load state values and the generation of a variable trend threshold based upon previous machine cycles compared to a current machine cycle. These limitations are not found to be taught or suggested by the prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JONATHAN MOFFAT whose telephone number is (571)272-2255. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, from 7:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Barlow can be reached on (571) 272-2269. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/jm/

/Bryan Bui/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2863

JM
4/3/2008